

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 268264

FOR EA ONLY, MANILA POUCH CEBU

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, BEXP, MILI, EPAP, RP

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - PHILIPPINES

TO : EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/PHL - BENJAMIN A. FLECK

1. MRS. MARCOS RETURNS HOME (CONFIDENTIAL)

MRS. MARCOS DEPARTED NEW YORK NOVEMBER 2 AND IS NOW BACK
IN MANILA. ON ARRIVAL THERE, SHE MADE A VERY UP-BEAT
STATEMENT CONCERNING U.S.-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS AND THE
PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFUL BASE NEGOTIATIONS. PRIOR TO
LEAVING NEW YORK, SHE BREAKFASTED WITH SENATOR JAVITS.
I HAVE SENT YOU A MEMORANDUM REGARDING THAT MEETING.

2. MRS. MARCOS HIRES U.S. PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM
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(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

AS A RESULT OF CONVERSATIONS MRS. MARCOS HELD IN NEW YORK
WITH OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM, DOREMUS AND
COMPANY, THEY PLAN TO VISIT MANILA, ARRIVING ON NOVEMBER 13
FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AND THE SIGNING OF A THREE-YEAR
CONTRACT. EA/PHL OFFICERS LUNCED WITH BOARD CHAIRMAN

FRANKLIN E. SCHAFER, PRESIDENT G. BARRY MCMENNAMIN, AND OTHER OFFICERS OF DOREMUS NOVEMBER 8. WE PROVIDED THEM WITH A GENERAL BRIEFING ON U.S.-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS. THEY INFORMED US THAT THEIR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES ON BEHALF OF THEIR NEW CLIENT WILL BE TO IMPROVE THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE MEDIA AND TO ATTRACT PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND PROMOTE TOURISM TO THE PHILIPPINES. WILLIAM CODUS, FORMER DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND NOW A DOREMUS EXECUTIVE, WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN ARRANGING THE CONTACT WITH MRS. MARCOS.

3. ANOTHER SUBIC STRIP INCIDENT (CONFIDENTIAL)

THERE HAS BEEN A RECENT INCIDENT AT SUBIC INVOLVING FORCED REMOVAL OF FILIPINAS' CLOTHING AND PICTURE TAKING BY EIGHT U.S. PERIMETER SECURITY PERSONNEL. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION SUBSTANTIATES THE BASIC ALLEGATIONS, WHICH HAVE RECEIVED FRONT PAGE TREATMENT IN THE PHILIPPINE PRESS. U.S. AND PHILIPPINE AUTHORITIES ARE INVESTIGATING FURTHER. THE EMBASSY IS PREPARING A PRESS RELEASE AND THE AMBASSADOR WILL CONVEY HIS CONCERN PERSONALLY TO ACTING FOREIGN SECRETARY INGLES. THE NEED FOR SATISFACTORY PERIMETER SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS (OUR PROPOSALS ARE STILL AWAITING A PHILIPPINE RESPONSE) WILL BE EMPHASIZED. WE ARE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH DOD REGARDING OFFICIAL DUTY ASPECTS OF THIS CASE, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF OUR NEW

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PROPOSAL ON OFFICIAL DUTY DETERMINATION WHICH AMBASSADOR NEWSOM HAS NOT YET HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH PHILIPPINE OFFICIALS.

4. EFFECT OF NEW U.S. SUGAR MEASURES ON PHILIPPINE SHIPMENTS IN TRANSIT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY HAS PRESENTED US WITH AN AIDE MEMOIRE REQUESTING THAT NEARLY 200,000 LONG TONS OF SUGAR SCHEDULED TO BE LOADED AND IN TRANSIT TO THE U.S. BEFORE MIDNIGHT NOVEMBER 8 BE GIVEN A GRACE PERIOD, FROM THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY TARIFF INCREASE, OF AT LEAST 40 DAYS AND PREFERABLY 50 DAYS TO ENTER THE U.S. BEFORE SUCH INCREASE TAKES EFFECT. REFLECTING THE FRANTIC EFFORTS OF MANY SUGAR SUPPLIERS TO LOAD CARGOS BEFORE NOVEMBER 8, THE PHILIPPINE COMMUNICATION INDICATES THAT VESSELS CONTAINING SOME 100,000 TONS ARE EXPECTED TO SAIL IN THE FOUR DAY PERIOD, NOVEMBER 4-8. NEW U.S. SUGAR MEASURES WILL ACCOMMODATE SUCH SHIPMENTS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ALL CARGOS ENTERING THE U.S. BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1978 WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE INCREASED TARIFF AND AD VALOREM FEE.

5. LOPEZ-OSMENA GRANTED ASYLUM (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR., SERGIO OSMENA III, AND JAKE ALMEDA-LOPEZ WERE NOTIFIED ON NOVEMBER 8 BY THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE THAT THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR ASYLUM IN THE UNITED STATES HAD BEEN APPROVED AS OF THAT DATE. ACCORDING TO STEVE PSINAKIS, MRS. EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR., ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR THREE CHILDREN WILL PROBABLY NOW TRAVEL TO CANADA, WHERE SHE WILL APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES.

6. PLEASE NOTE FOR EA ONLY CAPTION.

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Message Attributes

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